

Minutes

Place Brunswick Healthy Living Centre

Date Thursday 25th November 2010.

Time 5.30pm

1 Present

Staff – 10; Board – 7; Volunteers – 13; Members – 8; Visitors – 9.

R Smith, A Footer, K Evans, R Moore, K Naimo, G Oliver, A Compton, R Twiney, J Dally, K Claringbull, G Davies, T Newman, J Harris, L Mail, K Sinfield, N Jones, L Bishop, K Pasteur, T Groverm J Liddamax, G Hiloy, C Underwood, J Dale, A Smith, C Pollock, D Knight, G Randall, B Ashworth, P Austin, H Starkey, J Bewley, R Edwards, J Armstrong, B Weed, A Goodwin.

2 Apologies

Karen Higgins (WCAVA)

Sue Fry (Sue Fry Consulting)

3 Minutes of the last AGM

Approved

3.1 Matters arising

None

4 Chair's Report

Gareth Davies, Rick Smith, Amy Footer and Kristie Naimo gave the report summarising the great work that Action 21 has undertaken over the past year.

Re-use: KN a slide demonstrating the growth in tonnage of re-use sales at the Recycle Warehouse (RWH). The RWH has been operating for over five years and the Re-useful Centre (RUC) for eighteen months. The containers at the RWH have given way to a new building and KN thanked Board Member Chris Pollock for helping to make this happen. Changes to staff were noted, and a warm welcome given to new staff. Action 21 has started van collections and deliveries. 89 volunteers helped divert 2.5 tonnes of waste at the Peace Festival and Warwick Folk Festival this year.

Transport: The Bicycle workshop has moved upstairs at the RUC, and welcomed Graham Oliver as Co-ordinator.

Energy: the Solar 300 Challenge has completed 25 installations to date, with two new clusters lined up in North Leamington. RS gave thanks to all the volunteers who have helped make this happen. The Sydenham Community Insulation Challenge is drawing to a close but has engaged with the community and helped raise awareness of insulation. A feasibility study has been completed for the Leam Hydro project and presented to Warwick district council.

Food: Since becoming a charity Action 21 has had to say a sad farewell to Judy and the Leamington and Warwick food co-ops. RS thanked Judy for all her hard work over the years with Action 21. The Dobson Lane Community Allotments have been a huge success. There are now over 45 plots gardened by different families, a woodland area and raised bed access. Thanks were given to Louise, the volunteers, councillors and others who made it happen; and to the Dobson Lane Allotment Association for continuing the project. Thanks were also given to Lucy Bishop and her team of volunteers for the volunteer led Garden Gangs project.

Education: AF talked about the opening of the Sustainability Centre in Jephson Gardens and the role that Jim, Action 21's Community Ranger, will play in engaging the public in the gardens with an emphasis on sustainability. This also opens up new volunteer roles which Action 21 is currently recruiting for. A particular education event which Action 21 is annually involved in is the '200X and Beyond' event at Coombe Country Park, run in partnership with other local authorities. This event gives children from local primary schools the sustainability message. 2010 & Beyond worked with 1263 children from 45 local Primary Schools. Thanks were given to the organisations that funded the event. The last year as also seen us work with Canalside Community Food to deliver a pilot education project teaching children about where their food comes from. Following the success of this pilot, community forum has provided funding to deliver four projects in the coming year.

AF gave a volunteering update and gave heartfelt thanks to the volunteers, now numbering around 200, who give so much in terms of time and skills. Without them Action 21 could not achieve what it does.

RS talked about our communications strategy, thanking Eleanor Perkins for putting it all in place. Action 21 has regular press coverage in the local papers, a well-visited website, blog and strong social media presence (on facebook and twitter).

5 Financial Report

RS presented a slide outlining Action 21's finances, and drew people's attention to the draft accounts on their seats. No questions were asked.

(For more information please request a copy of the draft accounts).

6 Questions

At this point, GD invited the audience to ask questions.

No questions were asked, but the audience wished to thank Gareth for all his hard work as chair.

7 Election of Trustees

Gareth Davies stepped down as chair. The position is currently vacant.

All other trustees were re-elected onto the Board.

8 Any Other Business

None raised.

9 Date of next meeting

Will be announced a month in advance of the meeting date.